DEFINITIONS

1. **Computer matching.** The comparison of two or more automated data bases to identify the differences.

2. **Dual or multiple entitlement.** Dual or multiple entitlement occurs when an individual receives benefits under their own SSN and under one or more individual's SSNs., e.g., a widow receives SSI under her own SSN and receives SS (widow's benefits) under her deceased husband's SSN or a child receiving SS or SSI benefits under two parents SSNs.

3. **Hits.** Unverified matches on personal identifiers shown on the MTCS and on files maintained by the SSA.

4. **Housing Agencies (HAs).** This includes public housing agencies, Indian Housing Authorities, and state agencies that administer HUD rental assistance programs.

5. **Income Verification.** The confirmation of income data with an independent source. Social security and supplemental security income data obtained directly from SSA, via HUD, which is not successfully contested by the tenant, is considered verified.

6. **Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities.** Those Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities which are administering the HUD programs mentioned in Chapter I of this Guide.

7. **Management Agent.** The firm or entity hired by the owner to manage the property on her or his behalf.

8. **Multifamily Tenant Characteristics System (MTCS).** An automated system that provides tenant data for the Office of Public and Indian Housing's programs, to the Tenant Assessment Sub-System (TASS) for use in computer matching. Housing agencies provide the tenant data to MTCS.

9. **Owners/Agents (O/As).**   Those private owners, management agents, and other agents who are administering the HUD programs mentioned in Chapter I of this Guide.

10. **Private Owner.** An individual or entity that leases an assisted dwelling unit to an eligible family.

11. **Program Administrators.**   Public housing agencies, Indian tribes and tribally designated housing entities, private owners, management agents, public housing agencies, and state housing authorities acting as contract administrators that administer HUD's rental assistance programs.

12. Secure Systems. Software used by program administrators to limit data access only to authorized users.   Secure Systems is Web-based and provides a point of entry to many of REAC's systems, such as Tenant Assessment Subsystem

13. Significant unreported/underreported income differences. Differences represent the excess of income shown by independent income sources (i.e., the SSA) over the income shown in the source tenant data (from MTCS or TRACS). The significant difference amount is the criterion that HUD uses in selecting households to be printed on the Tenant Income Discrepancy Report.

14. Social Security (SS) income. Social security income is available to persons who are: (a) a disabled insured worker under age 65, (b) a retired insured worker at age 62 or over, (c) the spouse of a retired or disabled worker entitled to benefits who is age 62 or over, or has in care a child under age 16 or over age 16 and disabled who is entitled to benefits on the worker's Social Security record, (d) the divorced spouse of a retired or disabled worker entitled to benefits if age 62 or over and married to the worker for at least 10 years, (e) the divorced spouse of a fully insured worker who has not yet filed a claim for benefits if both are age 62 or over, were married for at least 10 years, and have been finally divorced for at least 2 continuous years, (f) the dependent, unmarried child of a retired or disabled worker entitled to benefits, or of a deceased insured worker if the child is under age 18 or under age 19 and a full time elementary or secondary school student, or age 18 or over but under a disability which began before age 22, (g) the surviving spouse (including a surviving divorced spouse) of a deceased insured worker if the widow(er) is age 60 or over, (h) the disabled surviving spouse (including a surviving divorced spouse in some cases) of a deceased insured worker if the widow(er) is age 50-59 and becomes disabled within a specified period, (i) the surviving spouse (including a surviving divorced spouse) of a deceased insured worker, regardless of age, if caring for an entitled child of the deceased who is either under age 16 or disabled before age 22, and (j) the dependent parents of a deceased insured worker at age 62 or over.

15. State Verification Eligibility System (SVES). An automated system developed by the Social Security Administration to provide States and Federal agencies with SS and SSI program information. Verification of data is performed using the last name, first name and date of birth as requested by a State or Federal agency.

16. Supplemental Security Income (SSI). SSI is a Federal program administered by SSA. The SSI program was established to provide cash assistance to individuals who have limited income and resources and are age 65 or older, or blind or disabled, including children. The amounts of SSI benefit payments vary depending on other income that is available, the household's living arrangements and whether state benefit programs provide additional amounts.

17. Tenant Assessment Sub-System (TASS). The automated system used by HUD: to provide information to other agencies, i.e., the SSA, for use in computer matching; to do automated

analysis needed to identify potential unreported or underreported income; and to produce SS and SSI reports for program administrators.

18. **Tenant Rental Assistance Certification System (TRACS).** An automated system that provides tenant data for the Office of Housing's programs, to the TASS for use in computer matching. Management agents/owners provide the tenant data to TRACS.

19. **Verification.** The act of confirming, or substantiating the accuracy of computer matching results. This may be done by confirming computer matching results directly with the tenant or an independent entity/person.